

CLEAN VERSION OF THE ENTIRE SET OF CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. (CANCELLED)

1 2. (CANCELLED)

1 3. (AMENDED) A method to provide copy protection for a content, the
2 method comprising:
3 descrambling the content delivered by a content provider using a local key;
4 generating the local key from a programmable user key according to an
5 authorization code provided by the content provider; and
6 receiving the authorization code via a communication channel, the communication
7 channel being one of a return path of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a
8 network.

1 4. (AMENDED) The method of Claim 3 further comprising receiving the user
2 key from the content provider via the communication channel.

1 5. (AMENDED) The method of Claim 3 wherein the user key is provided by
2 a master CA device having the authorization code.

1 6. (AMENDED) The method of Claim 3 wherein the user key is embedded in
2 a medium embodying the content.

1 7. (CANCELLED)

1 8. (CANCELLED)

1 9. (AMENDED) A conditional access (CA) device comprising:
2 a descrambler to descramble a content delivered by a content provider using a local
3 key;

4 a key generator coupled to the descrambler to generate the local key from a user key
5 according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and

6 a communication interface coupled to the key generator to receive the authorization
7 code via a communication channel, the communication channel being one of a return path
8 of a cable connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

1 10. (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the communication
2 interface further receives the user key from the content provider via the communication
3 channel.

1 11. (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the user key is provided
2 by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1 12. (AMENDED) The CA device of Claim 9 wherein the user key is embedded
2 in a medium embodying the content.

1 13. (CANCELLED)

1 14. (CANCELLED)

1 15. (AMENDED) A computer program product comprising:
2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein to
3 provide copy protection for a scrambled content, the computer program product having:

4 a first program code to descramble the content delivered by a content
5 provider using a local key;

6 a second program code to generate the local key from a programmable user
7 key according to an authorization code provided by the content provider; and

8 a third program code to receive the authorization code via a communication
9 channel, the communication channel being one of a return path of a cable
10 connection, a telephone connection, and a network.

1 16. (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim 15 further
2 comprising a fourth program code to receive the user key from the content provider via the
3 communication channel.

1 17. (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim 15 wherein the user
2 key is provided by a master CA device having the authorization code.

1 18. (AMENDED) The computer program product of Claim 15 wherein the user
2 key is embedded in a medium embodying the content.